

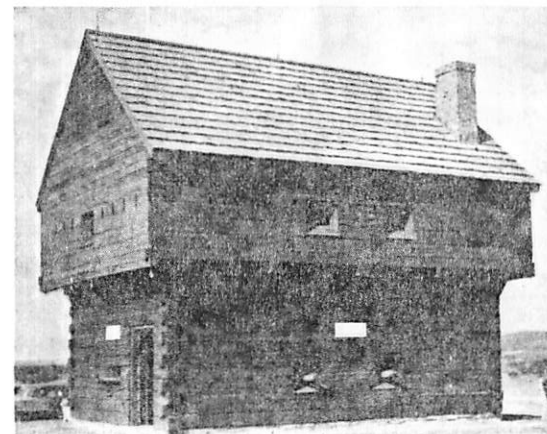
Early
forts &
building
belong here

(see file on
artist projects)

Include ^{copy of} list of
1st families in
Heber Valley

BLOCKHOUSE is a small fort built of logs or timbers. It may be part of a larger defense system. Pioneer settlers of the United States and Canada used block-

houses as a defense against Indian attacks. Usually a two-storied square tower, a blockhouse had room for 25 to 100 men. The men fired at the enemy through loopholes in the walls. The second story sometimes had an overhang so that the defenders could keep Indians with firebrands away from the wall. Blockhouses were useless against enemy artillery fire. The Normans built structures similar to blockhouses after they conquered England in 1066. JAMES B. HODGSON, JR.



Brown Bros.

A Historic Blockhouse at Saratoga Springs, N.Y.

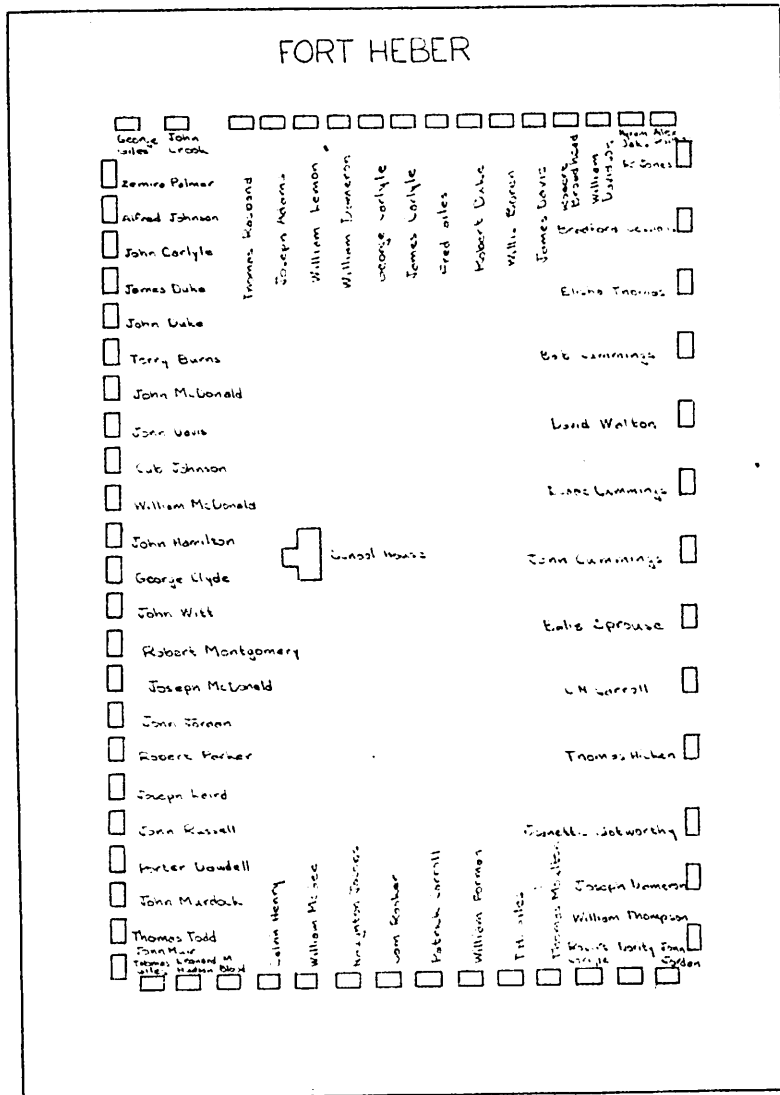
BLOEMFONTEIN, *BLOOM fawn TAYN* (pop. 148,282; met. area pop. 180,179), is the capital of the Orange Free State, a province of South Africa. Its name is an Afrikaans word meaning *fountain of flowers*. Afrikaans is an official language of South Africa. The city lies about 600 miles (970 kilometers) northeast of Cape Town. For the location of Bloemfontein, see **SOUTH AFRICA** (color map).

More Africans than whites live in Bloemfontein. The city serves as a farming, marketing, and governmental center. Bloemfontein is regarded as the judicial capital of the country because the Court of Appeals, the highest court, sits there. It also has a university, an agricultural school, and two observatories.

Afrikaners (descendants of the Dutch Boers) founded Bloemfontein in 1846. British troops occupied the city in 1900 during the Boer War.

LEONARD M. THOMPSON

BLOK, ALEXANDER. See **RUSSIAN LITERATURE** (Symbolism).



Old Fort Heber showing the locations of the families who built their homes there in 1859.

The area for the fort was 80 rods square, lying between what is now First West and Fourth West Streets and 2nd North and 5th North streets.

Within that fort area the company of men built their houses close together, with sufficient openings to let their stock in and out. The houses were built with green cottonwood logs that were cut on the river bottoms.

They were forced to protect themselves from Indian Depredations & Raids

Dirt floors, dirt roofs and mud packed between the logs were the order of the day.

When the crops were planted and the log huts prepared, the men left the valley and went back to Provo where happy families greeted them with shouts of "How's the weather?" and "When are we going?"

With wives, children, cows, pigs, chickens and all their earthly possessions packed, the original company started out and were joined by others who were cheered by the reports of a good summer and plenty of farming land and irrigation water. Some of the additional families who came were Thomas H. Giles, John Giles, Hiram Oaks and George Carlile.

During that first summer, some 1,000 bushels of grain were raised in the valley. Though some of the wheat crop was injured by early frost, it could still be made into flour and the settlers rejoiced for the blessings of the harvest. Because the nearest gristmill was in Provo and a four-days' journey away, many of the people ground flour in small hand mills or boiled the wheat and ate it whole with milk.

With the crops in and summer on the wane, dread winter again loomed up before the people. Farming efforts had been to raise wheat and other crops to sustain human life, and so before winter came it was necessary to cut meadow hay and swamp grass for cattle wherever it could be found. All of it had to be cut by hand with a scythe, which proved to be the hardest work of the summer.

Many of the men who had come to the valley during the summer and raised their crops decided that they would return to Provo for the winter rather than provide hay for their cattle and be shut out from the rest of the world for the long winter months.

However, 18 families had cast their lot with Provo Valley and through the winter they stayed. These families, according to the journal of John Crook, were Thomas Rasband, John Crook, Charles N. Carroll, John Jordan, Alexander Sessions, Bradford Sessions, Hiram Oaks, John Lee, Richard Jones, James Davis, William Davidson, James Laird, John Sessions, Elisha Thomas, James Carlile and George Carlile. Jane Clotworthy and Elizabeth Carlile were both widows. Charles C. Thomas, unmarried, lived with his brother Elisha. No record is made of the exact number of women and children.

The first birth among the settlers in the valley occurred in November. The child, a daughter of William Davidson and his wife, Ellen, was named Timpanogos, the Indian name for the valley and the prominent mountain that lay at the west.

For those who remained, the first winter in the valley was a long and dreary one. The snow fell early and was several feet deep. For nearly four months they were without communication from the rest of the world.

At Christmas time, however, a group of young people from Provo braved the weather and came through the canyon by sleigh and spent the holiday season with the families in the valley. They soon left and no one else came into the valley until the snows melted.

Their being shut out from the rest of the world did not mean that the settlers spent the winter days and nights with long faces and twiddling thumbs. Quite the opposite. Meeting in the various log homes, they held Church meetings each Sabbath day and during the week gathered for singing, dancing and dramatics.

As the Spring of 1860 neared they hopefully looked for signs that winter was leaving and warm weather was on its way. By the end of March when the snow was still as deep as ever and no signs of Spring were evident, some began to get discouraged. It was finally determined that all would meet at the home of Thomas Rasband where a meeting would be held and the help of the Lord sought.

Those present reported that during the meeting they prayed sincerely and earnestly that the Lord would cause the snow to melt and Spring to come so that their famished oxen and cows might get grass to eat and that they could plant their crops and be in touch again with their friends in the lower valleys.

Before the meeting was dismissed there was water dripping from the eaves of the house and Spring was born in the valley.

Mormon Crickets Invade Juab—Again

by MYRNA TRAUNTVEIN
Herald Correspondent

NEPHI — Mormon crickets are moving through Juab County again this year. Last year the crickets reenacted the old pioneer story of the seagulls vs. the crickets in several areas of the county.

The seagulls, who had made a nesting area near the Nephi City sewer lagoons, gobbled up the hungry crickets and then regurgitated the empty shells of the digested crickets into the sewer lagoons to the west of the city.

At that time, according to county extension agent Blaine Jones, the Utah Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service baited the crickets with a medium toxicity poison which was deadly to the crickets but had no effect on the gulls.

The wet mild winter and wet spring have once again figured in the large population of crickets in the area.

However, Tom Crowe, state officer in charge for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service of the United States Department of Agriculture (APHIS), says that the most heavily infested area in the state is found just north of Vernal.

There are four locations there on BLM and Forest Service Land that are severely affected.

Crowe explained that since his office attempts only to control the cricket population and not destroy it, officials must see significant numbers of crickets in an area before they step in with aerial spraying programs.

This year, he said, the agency did spray west of Mona about one and a half months ago. The federal agency

used low-flying airplanes to spray the affected area with seven-four oil.

Last year between 2,000 to 3,000 acres of land in the county were sprayed with a poison bait. Most of that acreage was public rangeland. The agency ran out of bait last year, but this year Crowe says that there is an ample supply to do the job that needs to be done.

Reports last year were that the long black creatures were so thick on some of the county roadways that they were often crushed under the wheels of passing vehicles. In fact, the creatures were about four to five inches apart on Waldon Reed's range in Dog Valley, west of Nephi.

"I don't think they are as bad this year," said Reed. "They are scattered over quite an area (about 500 acres) but I don't think they are quite as thick."

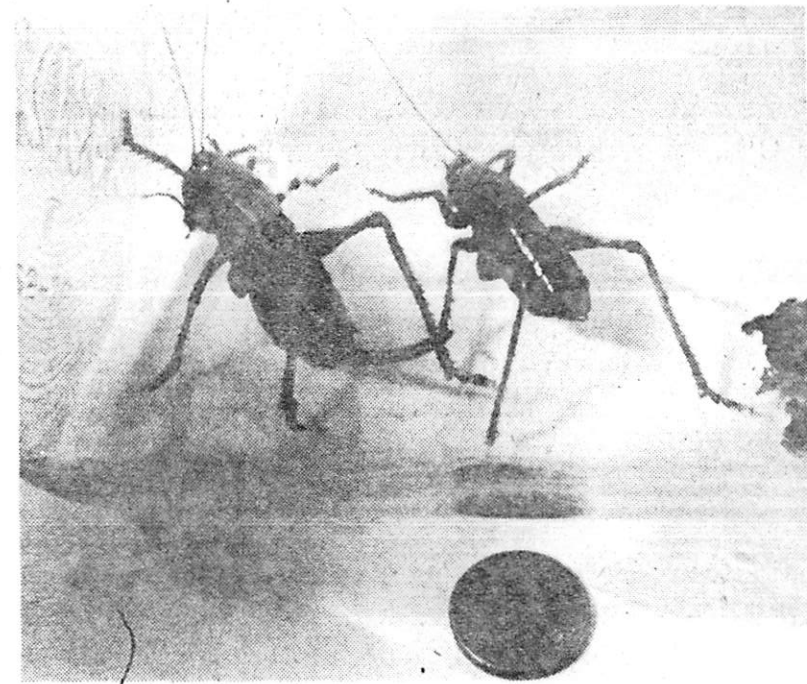
At least they weren't bad enough for him to take on the huge bill that spraying demands. Last year, he said, the agency wanted \$3,600 for spraying his infested range.

Crowe said that he had had no requests from local farmers to spray for crickets in the Juab area on a cost plus basis this year.

The Extension Office said that it has had three sightings reported in the county. One of the sites was between Nephi and Mona, another was to the south of Levan, and the last was in the foothills west of Nephi.

Some sightings have also been made near Goshen, Eureka, Delta, and in Furner Valley between Nephi and Delta.

Crowe said that he hadn't worked as closely with the extension agent in Juab County this year as he had last year.



Penny shows relative size of Mormon crickets.

Provo Herald 7-19-81

"We're dealing with all federal land in Juab this year," he said.

Crowe agreed and stated that it is not uncommon for the creatures to move two or three miles in one day when they are traveling.

During this stage, Jones said, they do little damage to vegetation as they do not stop in any one area long enough to defoliate the greenery.

At other times the large insects stop

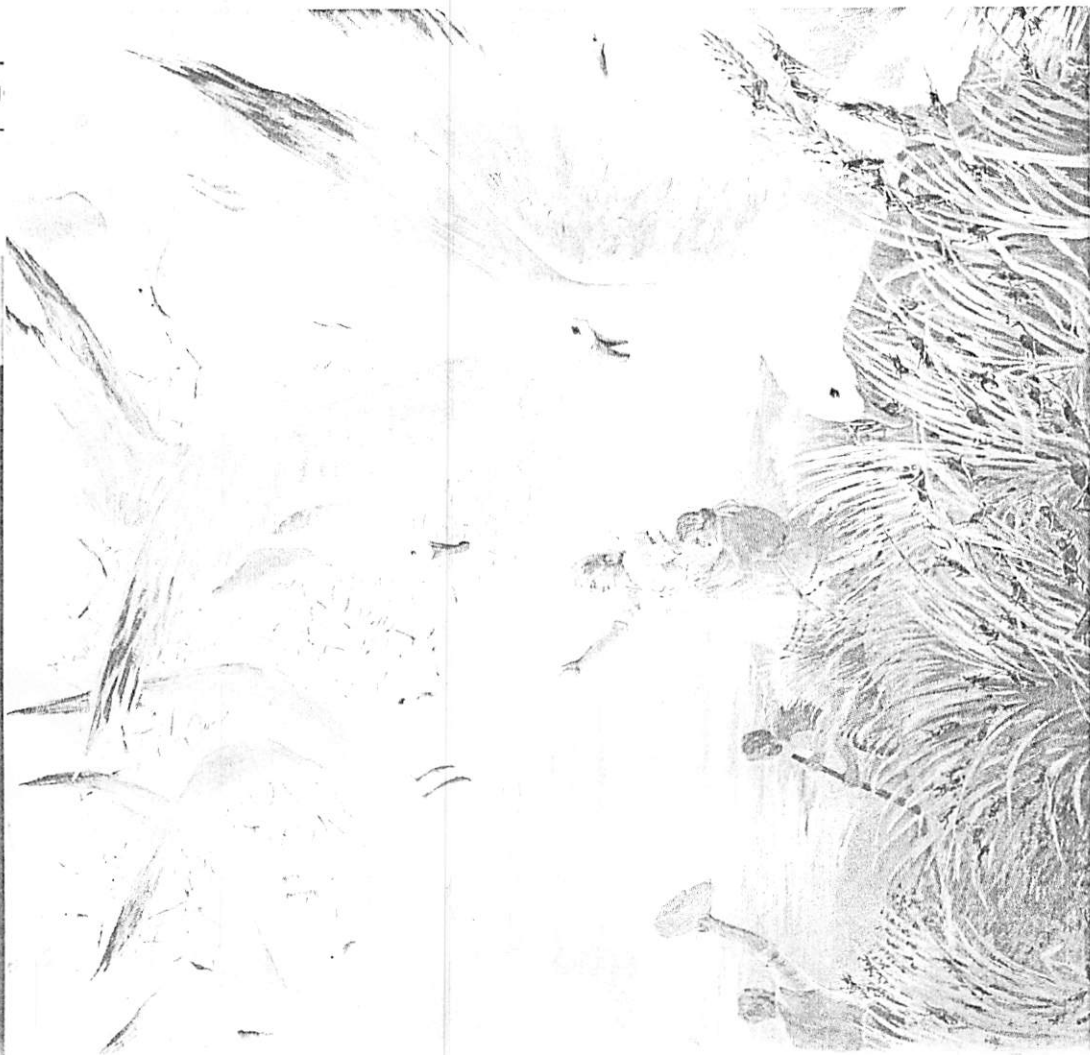
and eat. This is the stage that is to be feared, he explained. The crickets at this stage of development can completely destroy the edible portion of the plant life in the area. At this stage they will eat anything green.

This year, once again, despite federal agencies, many farmers are thankful for the gulls. After all, they are cheaper than airplanes.



DAUGHTERS OF UTAH PIONEERS

From their nesting places on the islands of the Great Salt Lake, seagulls came to devour hordes of destructive crickets menacing crops of pioneers. For this providential deliverance the seagull became Utah's state bird. (Painting by Jack Vigos)



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